

STEP 1 CHECK THE BASICS

- 1 Tick the sentences that are true about a discussion essay.
 - ☐ 1 You give one side of an argument.
 - ☒ 2 You conclude by giving your opinion.
 - ☒ 3 You give a reason for your opinion.

STEP 2 MOVE ON

- 2 Read the essay and put the arguments in the order in which they are mentioned.
 - A Whales don't die instantly.⁴
 - B Animals in factory farms are killed in a more cruel way than whales.²
 - C Some species of whales may die out.³
 - D There are economic arguments in favour of whaling.¹

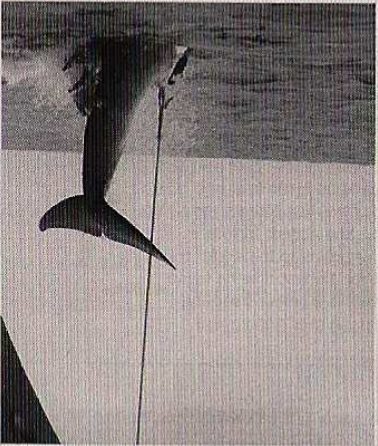
It is acceptable to hunt whales for commercial purposes.

A Many people have strong views about whaling. There are **arguments** both for and against it.

B On the one hand, whales provide a large quantity of meat for people in **countries** like Japan and Norway. This is good for the economy and gives people jobs in factories, shops and **restaurants**. Even though some people say the **method** of killing whales is cruel, it is less cruel than those used on factory farms.

C On the other hand, some species of whales are in danger of becoming extinct because of too much hunting in the past. Whales are also highly **intelligent** animals, but when they are killed, it can take them several **months** to die. Many people feel that this is morally depraved.

D To sum up, in my opinion it should be **acceptable** for countries to hunt some whales. Nevertheless, they shouldn't be allowed to hunt endangered species or cause unnecessary suffering.



Useful language: Expressions of contrast

- 1 **arguments** 4 **method** 7 **minutes**
- 2 **countries** 5 **too** 8 **people**
- 3 **restaurants** 6 **intelligent** 9 **acceptable**

- 1 *On the one hand* I'd like a job which pays more, but *on the other hand* ... I enjoy the work I'm doing at the moment.
- 2 We went to primary school together. I haven't seen her for years. *though*
- 3 There are serious problems. *Nevertheless* we feel this is a good time to act.
- 4 She's very hard-working *but* not very imaginative.

but nevertheless on the one hand on the other hand though

4 Complete the sentences using the words and expressions in the list.

- 5 Rewrite the sentences using the words in brackets.

Although / Even though I don't like seeing animals suffer, it is a cultural tradition.

1 It is a cruel sport. It is popular. **(despite)**

2 She disagreed with the spectacle. She watched it. (in spite of)

3 The animal didn't die. It suffered great pain. **(although / even though)**

4 Fox-hunting is banned. It is still practised. **(despite)**

5 I'm not interested in horse racing. I think it's an exciting sport. **(although / even though)**

STEP 3 WRITE

TASK

You are going to write a discussion essay of 120–150 words entitled 'It is not acceptable to use animals in sport'. Before you start...

- 6 **THINK** Think about:
 - which sports use animals.
 - how the animals are treated.
 - whether their treatment is acceptable.
 - whether the sports should change.
- 7 **PLAN** Use the table to help you plan your essay.

Paragraph 1: Introduction	Paragraph 2: Arguments in favour of the statement	Paragraph 3: Arguments against the statement	Paragraph 4: Conclusion
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- 8 **WRITE** Now you are ready to write your essay.
- 9 **CHECK** Read your essay carefully to check for mistakes.
 - Have you:
 - kept to the word limit?
 - used expressions from the Useful Language section?
 - corrected any spelling or punctuation mistakes?

Total

/10 marks

EXAM PRACTICE Listening

- 1 Listen to the interview about using animals in therapy. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 Why does Dan Gray recommend depressed or ill people to get a pet?
 - A Because they can't talk.
 - B Because they don't ask questions.
 - C Because they are warm and open.
- 2 Doctors think animals help people because...
 - A animals are isolated.
 - B they have no responsibilities.
 - C they make people feel loved.
- 3 Why are some people sceptical about animal therapy?
 - A Because people don't communicate.
 - B Because animals do not cure people.
 - C Because professionals don't believe in it.
- 4 When a patient was given a cockatiel...
 - A the bird slept on his shoulder.
 - B the bird was always in a cage.
 - C he began speaking to the bird.
- 5 A patient in prison...
 - A changed his behaviour when he got a bird.
 - B didn't feel compassion for his bird.
 - C is still serving a sentence for violent robbery.
- 6 Some boys in a home...
 - A were helped by a cat called 'Tiger'.
 - B thought the cat was dangerous.
 - C didn't like the dog being in the hospital.
- 7 Children in the psychiatric hospital...
 - A are scared of the dog.
 - B express their emotions to the dog.
 - C reject the dog.
- 8 The physical benefits of having a pet include...
 - A lower blood pressure.
 - B faster heart rate.
 - C no hospital treatment.
- 9 Older people...
 - A sometimes abandon pets.
 - B feel less lonely with a pet.
 - C fill their homes with pets.
- 10 If you have serious health problems you should
 - A see a doctor.
 - B get a pet.
 - C make more friends.